

the provision of assistance under section 310B(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(a)(1)) solely due to the failure of the Secretary of Labor to respond to a request to certify assistance within the time period specified in section 310B(d)(4) of that Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 473) was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 536

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I send to the desk an amendment on behalf of Mr. BOND regarding insurance fee requirements.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN], for Mr. BOND, proposes an amendment numbered 536.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: Make technical correction to mortgage insurance fee requirements contained in the FY 2005 Omnibus Appropriations bill)

Insert the following (and renumber if appropriate) on page 231, after line 3:

“SEC. 6047. (a) Section 222 of title II of Division I of Public Law 108-447 is deleted; and

(b) Section 203(c)(1) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(c)) is amended by—

(1) striking “subsections” and inserting “subsection”, and

(2) striking “or (k)” each place that it appears.”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 536) was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 491

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 491 on behalf of Mr. MCCONNELL regarding debt relief in tsunami-affected countries.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN], for Mr. MCCONNELL, proposes an amendment numbered 491.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide deferral and rescheduling of debt to tsunami affected countries)

On page 194, line 19 after the colon insert the following:

Provided further, That the President is hereby authorized to defer and reschedule for such period as he may deem appropriate any amounts owed to the United States or any agency of the United States by those countries significantly affected by the tsunami and earthquakes of December 2004, including the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of Maldives and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, up to \$45,000,000 may be made available for the modification costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, if any, associated with any deferral and rescheduling authorized under this heading; *Provided further*, That such amounts shall not be considered “assistance” for the purposes of provisions of law limiting assistance to any such affected country:

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 491) was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 492

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 492 on behalf of Mr. LEAHY regarding Nepal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN], for Mr. LEAHY, proposes an amendment numbered 492.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To express the Sense of the Senate in support of the immediate release from detention of political detainees and the restoration of constitutional liberties and democracy in Nepal)

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

NEPAL

SEC. (a) FINDINGS.—The Senate makes the following findings—

Whereas, on February 1, 2005, Nepal’s King Gyanendra dissolved the multi-party government, suspended constitutional liberties, and arrested political party leaders, human rights activists and representatives of civil society organizations.

Whereas, despite condemnation of the King’s actions and the suspension of military aid to Nepal by India and Great Britain, and similar steps by the United States, the King has refused to restore constitutional liberties and democracy.

Whereas, there are concerns that the King’s actions will strengthen Nepal’s Maoist insurgency.

Whereas, while some political leaders have been released from custody, there have been new arrests of human rights activists and representatives of other civil society organizations.

Whereas, the King has thwarted efforts of member of the National Human Rights Commission to conduct monitoring activities, but recently agreed to permit the United Nations High Commissioners for Human Rights to open an office in Katmandu to monitor and investigate violations.

Whereas, the Maoists have committed atrocities against civilians and poses a threat to democracy in Nepal.

Whereas, the Nepalese Army has also committed gross violations of human rights.

Whereas, King Gyanendra has said that he intends to pursue a military strategy against the Maoists.

Whereas, Nepal needs an effective military strategy to counter the Maoists and pressure them to negotiate an end to the conflict, but such a strategy must include the Nepalese Army’s respect for the human rights and dignity of the Nepalese people.

Whereas, an effective strategy to counter the Maoists also requires a political process that is inclusive and democratic in which constitutional rights are protected, and government policies that improve the lives of the Nepalese people.

(b) Whereas, now therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the Sense of the Senate that King Gyanendra should immediately release all political detainees, restore constitutional liberties, and undertake good faith negotiations with the leaders of Nepal’s political parties to restore democracy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 492) was agreed to.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be set aside, and I ask unanimous consent that it be in order that three amendments en bloc be called up.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 388, 443, 459, AND 537

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I send to the desk amendments on behalf of Mr. DURBIN, No. 443; Mr. BAYH, No. 338; Mr. BIDEN, No. 537; and Mr. FEINGOLD, No. 459; and I ask unanimous consent that they be set aside.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments en bloc are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 388

(Purpose: To appropriate an additional \$742,000,000 for Other Procurement, Army, for the procurement of up to 3,300 Up Armored High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (UAHMMVs))

On page 169, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

UP ARMORED HIGH MOBILITY MULTIPURPOSE WHEELED VEHICLES

SEC. 1122. (a) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY.—The amount appropriated by this chapter under the heading “OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY” is hereby increased by \$742,000,000, with the amount of such increase designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 95 (108th Congress).